

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 835  
INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

UNCLAS COLOMBO 3190

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: ELAB, PINT, CE  
SUBJ: NEWS ARTICLE ON ASIAN-AMERICAN FREE LABOR INSTITUTE

1. QUOTED BELOW IS AN ARTICLE ENTITLED WHAT IS THIS ASIAN-AMERICAN FREE LABOUR INSTITUTE?. THE ARTICLE APPEARED IN THE JULY 5 EDITION OF THE LANKA SAMA SAMAJA PARTY (LSSP) NEWSPAPER, SOCIALIST NATION (RECEIVED AT THE EMBASSY JULY 10.) THE LSSP, A TROTSKYITE PARTY, WAS A MEMBER OF THE UNITED FRONT COALITION WITH THE SRI LANKA FREEDOM PARTY (SLFP) AND THE COMMUNIST PARTY (MOSCOW) (CP/M) IN THE PREVIOUS GOVERNMENT. THE LSSP, WHICH LEFT THE COALITION IN 1975, HAD A DISMAL SHOWING IN THE 1977 ELECTIONS, WINNING NO SEATS IN PARLIAMENT AND RECEIVING LESS THAN 4 PERCENT OF THE POPULAR VOTE. THE SOCIALIST NATION CIRCULATION IS ESTIMATED AT 3,000.
2. QUOTE: THE LABOUR OFFICERS ASSOCIATION HAS INTRODUCED THE SPONSOR OF ITS CURRENT WORKSHOP, THE ASIAN-AMERICAN FREE LABOUR INSTITUTE, AS ONE OF THE THREE INSTITUTES CREATED BY THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOUR-CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS, ONE OF THE BIGGEST LABOUR ORGANIZATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. THE TWO OTHER INSTITUTES COVER THE AFRICAN AND THE LATIN AMERICAN REGIONS.
3. FROM THIS IT IS CLEAR THAT THE SPONSOR HAS COME TO THE LABOUR OFFICERS ON FALS PRETENSES. THIS NOTE, THEREFORE, IS UNCLASSIFIED

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- INTENDED TO GIVE A TRUE PICTURE OF THIS INSTITUTE.
4. THE TWO OTHER INSTITUTES REFERRED TO ARE THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR FREE LABOUR DEVELOPMENT (AIFLD) WHICH OPERATES IN SOUTH AMERICA, AND THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN LABOUR CENTRE (AALC) WHICH OPERATES IN AFRICA. NO KNOWN STUDY HAS AS YET BEEN DONE ON THE ASIAN-AMERICAN FREE LABOUR INSTITUTE BUT AMPLE STUDIES HAVE BEEN DONE ON THE OTHER TWO. NOTE FOR INSTANCE ON AIFLD, THE STUDY

OF HOBY SPALDING JR., DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY, CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK IN A RECENT ISSUE OF LATIN AMERICAN PERSPECTIVES AND ON AALC, RODNEY LARSON'S BOOKLET TITLED, THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN LABOUR CENTRE AND THE CIA. ONE WOULD EXPECT THE SAME MECHANISM AND INTERESTS TO BE BEHIND THE ASIAN-AMERICAN INSTITUTE TO.

5. AS TO AIFLD'S SOURCES OF FINANCE, SPALDING SAYS: THE US GOVERNMENT HAS PROVIDED THE BULK OF AIFLD'S SUPPORT. BETWEEN 1962-67, 89 PER CENT OF ITS FUNDS DERIVED FROM US-AID, LABOUR (I.E. AFL-CIO) CONTRIBUTED 6 PERCENT, AND BUSINESS, REPRESENTED BY GRANTS FROM OVER 70 CORPORATIONS, ONLY 5 PER CENT. THIS MEANS THAT ALMOST DLRS 16 MILLION OF GOVERNMENT MONEY FLOWED INTO AIFLD (US SENATE, 1968:11). GOVERNMENT FUNDING HAS INCREASED STEADILY FROM 64 PER CENT IN 1962 TO 92 PER CENT IN 1967 AND BY 1971 AIFLD RANKED AS THE FIFTEENTH LARGEST RECIPIENT OF USAID CONTRACTS WITH A TOTAL OF DLRS 7,593 MILLIONS. AT TIMES AIFLD GARNERS SUPPORT FROM OTHER SOURCES. BETWEEN 1961 AND 1963, ONE SOURCE CLAIMS THAT IT RECEIVED NEARLY A MILLION DOLLARS FROM CIA CONDUITS (LOCKER, 1972:55).

7. AS TO WHO GOVERNS AIFLD'S ACTIVITIES, SPALDING SAYS AFTER REFERRING TO BEIRNE, GRACE (BOTH BIG BUSINESS) AND MEANY OF THE AFL-CIO EXECUTIVES FROM ANACODA COPPER, GULF OIL INTERNATIONAL, JOHNSON INTERNATIONAL, MERICK, OWENS-ILLINOIS, AND PAN AMERICAN AIRWAYS AS WELL AS MEMBERS OF THE INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION AND THE FUND FOR INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC EDUCATION, BOTH DONEES FROM CIA FRONTS HOLD OR HAVE HELD AIFLD POSITIONS. (SOURCES ACIA, 1975:56-76, AIFLD REPORT MAY, 1973:5).  
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HERE'S A GOOD MIX OF GOVERNMENT, BIG BUSINESS WITH ITS INTERESTS IN SOUTH AMERICA AND MEANY OF THE AFL-CIO.

8. IS THEN THE CLAIM THAT AMERICAN LABOUR IS BEHIND THESE INSTITUTES TENABLE? ISN'T THE MEANY LEADERSHIP OF AFL-CIO MERELY PROVIDING A FRONT FOR THE OPERATION OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT AND ORGANIZATIONS LIKE THE CIA. LET MR. EMILIO GHARZA ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS. END QUOTE.

9. COMMENT. THE ARTICLE WAS CONTRIBUTED BY THE CEYLON FEDERATION OF LABOR (CFL), THE LSSP'S LEADING UNION. REPORTEDLY, THE CFL DISTRIBUTED LEAFLETS CONTAINING SIMILAR STATEMENTS IN SINHALA TO PARTICIPANTS AT THE CLOSING SESSION OF THE LABOUR OFFICERS ASSOCIATION SEMINAR JUNE 30. AAFLI WAS CO-SPONSOR OF THE SEMINAR.

10. NO SIGNIFICANT REACTION TO THE LEAFLET NOR THE ARTICLE HAS BEEN NOTICED.

WRIGGINS

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